

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of curing comprising:
providing a first object;
providing a second object;
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to a malleable portion of
5 said first object, wherein said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending;
placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a non-malleable
portion of said second object;
placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container;
and
10 removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;
where said bridging extends from said second object to said
sheet; and
curing said malleable portion of said first object.
2. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 where said step
of placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container comprises:
placing a sheet having coefficient of thermal expansion less than
13.7 x10⁻⁶ inch/inch degree Fahrenheit per inch into said container, wherein
5 said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending.
- 1 3. (original) The method of Claim 1 where said step of removing
gas from said container where bridging occurs comprises:
attaching a pump to said container;

5 removing gas from said container; and
providing a pressure within said container between 25 inches of mercury to 29 inches of mercury.

4. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
placing said container into an auto-clave; and
providing a pressure between 45 pounds per square inch and 150 pounds per square inch on the outer surface of said container.

5. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
placing said container into an auto-clave; and
providing a temperature between 250 degrees Fahrenheit and 450 degrees Fahrenheit.

6. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
positioning said sheet where said sheet extends between 0.25 inches to 0.50 inches from said second object.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method of curing comprising:
providing a first object having a malleable portion;
providing a second object having a non-malleable portion;
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of
5 said first object, wherein said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending;
placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable portion of said second object;
placing said first object, second object and sheet into a container;
and
10 removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;

where said bridging extends from said second object to said first object; and

curing said malleable portion of said first object.

9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

5 placing a first side of a titanium sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

placing a first side of said sheet adjacent to an uncured stringer.

11. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, where said step of placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable portion of said second object comprises:

placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a stringer.

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

placing said container into an auto-clave; and
providing a temperature above ambient atmospheric temperature.

13. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to said non-malleable portion of said second object comprises:

5 positioning said sheet where said sheet extends between a quarter inch and a half inch from said second object.

14. (previously presented) The method of Claim 8 where said step of placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of said first object comprises:

5 placing a sheet of titanium foil having a thickness between five thousandth of an inch and ten thousandth of an inch adjacent to an uncured wing panel.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) A method of curing an object comprising:
providing an object having a malleable portion;
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of
said object, wherein said sheet is rigid and substantially resists bending;

5 coupling said sheet to said object;
placing said object and said sheet into a container; and
removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;
where said sheet provides pressure to said malleable portion; and
curing said malleable portion of said object.

17. (original) The method of Claim 16 where said step of removing gas from said container where bridging occurs comprises:

lowering pressure within said container where said bridging extends from a portion of said object to said sheet.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method of curing an object comprising:
providing an object having a malleable portion;
placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to said malleable portion of
said object;

5 coupling said sheet to said object by applying Sol-gel to said first
side of said sheet and coupling said sheet to said object;
 placing said object and said sheet into a container; and
 removing gas from said container where bridging occurs;
 where said sheet provides pressure to said malleable portion; and
10 curing said malleable portion of said object.

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method of joining a stringer and a wing
panel, and curing portions of said wing panel, comprising:
 providing said stringer;
 providing said wing panel;
5 placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of
said wing panel, wherein said sheet substantially resists bending;
 placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of
said stringer;
 placing said stringer, wing panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and
10 removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs; and
 curing said uncured portion of said wing panel.

22. (original) The method of Claim 21, where said bridging
extends from said stringer to said sheet.

23. (currently amended) The method of Claim 21, where said
bridging extends from said stringer to said wing panel.

24. (currently amended) A method of joining a stringer and a wing
panel, and curing portions of said wing panel, comprising:
 providing said stringer;

providing said wing panel;

5 placing a first side of a sheet adjacent to an uncured portion of said wing panel, wherein said placing occurs by applying a film of Sol-gel between said first side of said sheet and said uncured portion of said wing panel and joining said sheet to said uncured portion of said wing panel;

placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of

10 said stringer;

placing said stringer, wing panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs; and curing said uncured portion of said wing panel.

25. (currently amended) The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing said stringer, wing panel and sheet into a nylon bag comprises:

applying breather material between said stringer and said nylon bag.

26. (currently amended) The method of Claim 21 where said step of placing said stringer, wing panel and sheet into a nylon bag comprises:

applying a release film between said stringer and said nylon bag.

27. (currently amended) A method of joining a stringer and a wing panel, and curing portions of said wing panel, comprising:

providing said stringer;

providing said wing panel;

5 placing a first side of a sheet of titanium having a thickness between 0. 005 inches and 0. 010 inches, adjacent to an uncured portion of said wing panel;

placing a second side of said sheet adjacent to a cured portion of said stringer;

10 placing said stringer, wing panel and sheet into a nylon bag; and

removing gas from said nylon bag where bridging occurs; and
curing said uncured portion of said wing panel.

Claims 28-35 (canceled)